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Washington--The Economic Cooperation Administration (ECA) said that Western Europe's trade with Russia and her satellites is a two-war street which is helping strengthen the West against possible Communist attack.

Senator Lodge (R., Mass) wrote the ECA earlier in the month asserting that there ought to be "no repetition of the events which occurred prior to World War II when we sent large quantities of scrap iron to Japan which subsequently were thrown back at us in the form of shells and bullets."

Replying, William Foster, Assistant ECA Administrator, said there is a big difference, in that Western Europe is getting military materials back from Russia whereas the United States was getting nothing back from Japan. "

"In the case of East-West trade," he wrote Lodge, "chrome, manganese, coal, timber, food and fuel are essentials which help to strengthen the economy of the West, which is the foundation upon which military security is being built. "

Observing that the United States has shipped some machinery, vehicles and chemicals, Foster said all these shipments were screened first by the Commerce, State, Defense, Agriculture and Interior Departments, the ECA, National Security Resources Board, Atomic Energy Commission and Central Intelligence Agency.